

matingly engaging the sound outlet port of the receiver with the hollow elongated tubular portion such that a third portion of the resilient insert is compressed between the end of the receiver and the end wall.

REMARKS

Claims 22 and 25-38 are now pending. Applicant has cancelled claims 23 and 24, without prejudice.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 22 and 25. Applicant has amended each of claims 22 and 25 to add a comma for clarification. Applicant points out that in the July 2, 1998 Amendment, Applicant requested that a comma be placed after "end wall" in line 13 of claim 25. However, "end wall" does not occur in line 13 of claim 25. What Applicant intended to do was place a comma after "end wall" in line 3 as shown in the amendment above. The recitation of claim 13 instead of claim 3 in the July 2, 1998 amendment was a typographical error. Applicant withdraws its request in the July 2, 1998 amendment to add a comma to line 13 of claim 25.

The Examiner has objected to claims 35-38 as set forth in paragraph 1 of the Office Action, but has indicated that those claims would be allowable if they were amended to overcome the objection. Applicant has made the amendments to claims 35 and 36 as requested by the Examiner. Applicant believes that claims 35-38 are therefore allowable.

With regard to the rejections of claims 26-34, Applicant has amended independent claim 26 so that it is similar to claim 35. For example, claim 26 now recites a "sound outlet port having a first end and a second end" and resilient material "flanking only the second end of the sound

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outlet port", as well as "the first end of the sound outlet port mating with, directly contacting a surface of, and extending into the hollow elongated tubular portion." Applicant believes that claim 26 is allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 35 is allowable. Claims 27-34 are dependent on claim 26 and add further limitations thereto. Applicant thus believes dependent claims 27-34 are likewise allowable.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant believes claims 22 and 25-38 are all allowable. Should the Examiner disagree or have any questions regarding this submission, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (312) 707-8889.

For convenience of the Office, Applicant encloses herewith as Appendix A what Applicant believes to be a clean copy of claims 22 and 25-38 including all amendments to date. A Notice of Allowability is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Christopher C. Winslade
Reg. No. 36,308

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
500 West Madison Street - Ste. 3400
Chicago, Illinois 60661
(312) 707-8889